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wherein said control device executes automatic control of the video camera if the control command for the video camera is not received from any of the plurality of computer terminals.

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2. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 1, wherein said control device executes automatic control of the video camera if the control command is not received for a predetermined time period.

3. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 1, wherein said control device stops automatic control of the video camera if the video image of the video camera is not outputted by said video transmitting device.

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4. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 1, further comprising: an issuing device adapted to issue a control right of the video camera to one of the plurality of computer terminals which makes a request to acquire the control right of the video camera which is required for said control means to control the video camera,

wherein said control device executes automatic control of the video camera if the control right of the video camera is not issued to any of the plurality of computer terminals by said issuing device.

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5. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 4, wherein said control device executes automatic control of the video camera if a predetermined time period elapses after the control right of the video camera is released.

6. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 4, further comprising: video transmitting device adapted to transmit a video image of the video camera in response to a request from each of the plurality of computer terminals,

A1  
cancel

wherein said control device stops automatic control of the video camera if the video image of the video camera is not outputted from said video transmitting device to any computer terminal other than the computer terminal to which the control right of the video camera is issued.

Amend claims 8-19 as follows:

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8. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 7, wherein said automatic control device executes automatic control of the predetermined plurality of video cameras if the control rights of the predetermined plurality of video cameras are not issued to any of the computer terminals by said issuing device.

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9. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 7, wherein said control device executes automatic control of the predetermined plurality of video cameras excluding a video camera whose control right is received, if the control rights of the predetermined plurality of video cameras are issued to one computer terminal by said issuing device.

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10. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 7, wherein said automatic control device executes automatic control of video cameras whose control rights are not received for a predetermined time period, from among the predetermined plurality of video cameras, if the control rights of the predetermined plurality of video cameras are issued to one computer terminal by said issuing device.

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11. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 1, further comprising:  
a memory which stores a loci of an image pickup direction of the video camera in a memory,

wherein said control device executes automatic control of the video camera on the basis of the loci of the image pickup direction of the video camera, which is stored in said memory.

12. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 1, further comprising:  
a memory which stores at least one image pickup direction of the video camera in a memory,

wherein said control device executes automatic control of the video camera in the at least one image pickup direction stored in said memory.

13. (Amended) A camera control system according to claims 12, wherein said memory stores an image pickup direction relative to a control position in a range in which the video camera can pick up an image.

14. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 11 or 12, wherein said storage device stores at least one of a zoom magnification, a subject distance and an on/off state of a backlight correction of the video camera, correspondingly with the image pickup direction of the video camera.

15. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 1, further comprising:  
a measuring device adapted to divide a range of a controllable image pickup direction of the video camera into a plurality of ranges and measuring a time period which elapses when the video camera is being controlled in accordance with a control command from one of the plurality of computer terminals in each of divided ranges,

wherein said control device controls an image pickup direction of the video camera within a particular range of the plurality of divided ranges in which particular range a total of the time periods measured by said measuring device is largest.

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16. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 8,

wherein if automatic control is being executed by said automatic control device, said video transmitting device transmits video signals from the predetermined plurality of video cameras to a computer terminal which has made the video transmission request, while changing over the video signals at intervals of a predetermined time period.

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17. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 4, further comprising:

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a counting device adapted to count at least one of the number of times by which the control right has been issued to each of a predetermined plurality of video cameras by said issuing device, the number of times by which a request to acquire the control right of each of the predetermined plurality of video cameras has been received from the plurality of computer terminals, and the number of times by which said video transmitting device has transmitted a video image from each of the predetermined plurality of video cameras to the plurality of computer terminals; and

a changeover device adapted to control changeover time periods of outputting of video signals of the predetermined plurality of video cameras, on the basis of the number of times counted by said counting device,

wherein if automatic control is being executed by said control device, said video transmitting device changes over the video images from the predetermined plurality of video cameras on the basis of the changeover time periods controlled by said changeover device and outputs a video image to a computer terminal which has made the video transmission request.

18. (Amended) A camera control system according to claim 17, wherein said changeover device controls the changeover time periods of outputting of the video signals of